THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) On an average approximately 31 MMSCMD of gas was utilised in the year 1990-91, mainly in the Power, Fertilizer and ponge iron Sectors.

(b) No gas is flared along the HBJ Pipeline. Currently approximately 9 MMCMD of gas is utilised along the HBJ pipeline.

(c) The current optimum capacity is 18.2 MMSCMD. Gas has been allocated to three power plants and one Ethylene Cracker along the HBJ pipeline.

Loading of Coal in Madhya Pradesh

2985. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received requests from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for making provision of sufficient number of wagons for loading of coal; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). As per available records, the Ministry of Coal does not seem to have received any such request from Government of Madhya Pradesh. However, the Railway Board earmarks monthly wagon ceiling limits for movement of coal to various States. According to the information made available by Coal India Limited, the wagon ceiling limit for the State of Madhya Pradesh for the year 1991 has been increased by 166 Box wagons per month for steam coal consumers and 45 Box wagons for slack coal for industrial consumers over the year 1990 by the Railways.

Air Service to Neemach

2986. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide air service at Neemach city of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Capacity Utilisation of Refineries

2987. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present refining capacity of all the oil refineries in the country, refinery-wise; and

(b) the action taken by the Government to increase the refining capacity, and to set new plants for this purpose keeping in view the demand of petroleum products from 1990 to 1995?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a)